



CDHA CORNER

Dear colleagues,

Thank you to CRDHA for hosting an interesting and stimulating continuing competency event in April. It was an excellent opportunity to connect with members and learn from renowned speakers, all experts in their fields.



CDHA and CRDHA advocate for recognition of dental hygienists as primary health care providers, which means what to you? Conference speakers reminded us that our responsibility goes beyond the oral cavity. We may be the first or perhaps the only health care provider some folks see. As a result, we must be diligent in assessing, observing, evaluating, and discussing systemic health matters, impressing upon people the oral-systemic health connection and the importance of maintaining good general health. Dental hygienists can play a significant role in early identification of many health issues, make referrals, and follow up at future appointments. We can and should be partners with our clients in health care.

It was a truly motivating and inspirational learning event.

I was so excited to hear the results of the first-ever CRDHA election for Alberta CDHA board director. Six members stood for election, with Alexandra Sheppard the successful candidate. CDHA's board extends its congratulations to Alexandra and looks forward to meeting her in October. CDHA's board would also like to welcome Kelly Sloan as CRDHA's new registrar and chief executive officer.

I had the pleasure of extending CDHA greetings to the University of Alberta dental hygiene graduating class at CRDHA's grad brunch, and was impressed by the students' sense of purpose and professional vision.

Enjoy your summer!

*Gerry Cool, RDH
CDHA board director, Alberta*

WHAT'S NEW AT CDHA?

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

CDHA is committed to supporting your ongoing professional development with **webinars that are now available to members for FREE**, saving you hundreds of dollars.

FREE webinars now on demand:

Community Water Fluoridation

Instrument Reprocessing Essentials

A Comprehensive Approach to Dry Mouth & Sensitivity, *sponsored by Colgate*

Orofacial Function Matters

www.cdha.ca/webinars

Online Courses

Radiation Safety for Dental Hygienists

Developed with the Ontario Association of Medical Radiation Sciences, this four-module online course will provide you with fundamental knowledge about the safe operation of x-ray equipment. Find out how radiation affects the body and how you can protect yourself, your co-workers, and your clients from unnecessary exposure.

www.cdha.ca/radiationsafety

CHECK YOUR MOUTH

CDHA has partnered with the Oral Cancer Foundation and the American Dental Hygienists Association on a "Check Your Mouth™" initiative to help individuals identify the early signs and symptoms of oral cavity cancers. The Check Your Mouth™ campaign features an interactive website (www.checkyourmouth.org) that offers easy-to-use tools and tips for a quick visual and tactile examination of the oral cavity.

FILLING THE GAP IN ORAL HEALTH CARE

CDHA recently commissioned research to identify options for reintroducing dental therapy training into postsecondary education programs, recognizing that the closure of Canada's last dental therapy program in 2011 has led to significant oral health human resource shortages. *Filling the Gap in Oral Health Care*, a CDHA position statement, presents the results of this research.

www.cdha.ca/fillingthegap

TIP SHEET FOR DENTAL HYGIENE IMAGES

Are you using images of dental hygiene clinicians, clients or practice settings on your website? For an oral health advertising campaign? To enhance fact sheets or brochures? If so, please review and download CDHA's handy new checklist to ensure you are accurately portraying dental hygienists and reflecting proper dental hygiene practice.

www.cdha.ca/imageBank/Top_TipsDHPPhotos_final.pdf

NEW MEMBER BENEFIT: RED CORNER STORE

Proudly Canadian, RED Corner Store is committed to offering you exclusive savings on major brands including Kate Spade, Swarovski, Vitamix, and LG, with attentive service and easy shopping. FREE shipping is available on products such as appliances, electronics, housewares, jewelry, apparel, and more. Start shopping and saving today!

www.cdha.ca/redcornerstore

